

Urban District of Denton.



REPORT

ON THE

Health of Denton.

1923.

BY

WM. STEWART, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Mr. JOHN BARDSLEY, Chairman.

,, GEORGE HENRY PATCHETT, Ex-officio.

,, THOMAS MALLALIEU.

,, ROBERT HARRISON.

,, WILLIAM CHADWICK.

,, FRED COOKE.

,, FRED WORTHINGTON.

,, WM. JOHN BROMLEY.

,, WM. EDWIN MOSS.

Urban District of Denton.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Denton.

June, 1924.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health of Denton for the year 1923.

The birth-rate was 1.7 above that for the previous year, but is below the mean of the 10 years' average, and it is also below that for England and Wales.

The Infant death-rate although well below last year and also well below the mean of the preceding 10 years, it is nevertheless too high. It is 11 per 1,000 births above that for the Country as a whole.

My ambition is to see Denton with a healthy rising generation, and I look forward to the education of the parents to accomplish that end.

The Denton Council are now convinced that Maternity and Child Welfare work has done and is doing much good in the district, but that the scope of the work is curtailed through want of sufficient accommodation in the present building to carry on the work satisfactorily. Negotiations are now in progress to acquire larger and more suitable premises, when it is hoped the educational side of the work will be more fully developed.

The following comparison I think, might justify one in assuming that Child Welfare work had contributed in lowering the infant death-rate in the district.

The average Infant deaths during the six years before Welfare work commenced in the district was 48.

The average for the six years since Welfare work commenced was 26.

This means a saving of 22 lives each year.

The general death-rate is below the previous year, it is well below the mean of the preceding 10 years, and compares favourably with that for the whole country.

Respiratory diseases account for nearly 25 per cent. of the total deaths from all causes; smoke and dust are big factors in the causation of lung trouble.

One is often told that plenty of smoke is a criterion of good trade, but it is also an important contributory factor in the causation of bad health. The nuisance should be checked by every possible means.

Cancer still remains an unknown quantity, it continues to claim a high toll in deaths.

Little, if any, improvement appears to have taken place in the Phthisis death-rate since 1915.

On Reference to the Consultant Tuberculosis Medical Officers' Report it will be seen that on the 1st January, 1923, thirty-eight cases of open Tuberculosis were living in the district and at the end of the year thirty-two such cases.

Tuberculosis is an infectious disease. If 32 cases of Scarlet Fever were exposing themselves in the district severe measures would be taken.

The difference between the two cases is:—one is infectious for a matter of six weeks, the other for the period of their life.

Sentiment stands in the way of the only means of dealing with these incurables,—segregation.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. STEWART,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT.

STATISTICAL.

The following are the General Statistics for the year 1923:—

Area of the district in acres	2,593
Population (1923)	17,970
Number of inhabited houses (1921)	4,367
Estimated number of families or separate occupiers (1921)	5,034
Population (Census, 1921)—	
Males	8,321
Females	9,310—17,631
Number of persons per acre	6.927
Number of persons per house	4.114
	£ s. d.
Rateable Value	90006 5 0
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	313 0 0

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1923.

	Total	Male	Female
Births—			
Legitimate	297	..	158
Illegitimate	14	.	5
Deaths			
216	...	104	112
Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth:—			
From Sepsis	0		
From other causes	0		
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—			
Total, 25 ; Legitimate, 22 ; Illegitimate, 3.			
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	3		
,, Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	0		

Rate per 1,000 of Population.

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Death Rate from Tubercolosis of of Respiratory System	Rate of deaths under one year to 1,000 Births
Mean of 10 years—				
1913—1922	... 18.1	... 13.4	... 0.90	... 101
1922	..... 15.6	... 12.2	... 0.83	... 96
1923	..... 17.3	... 12.0	... 0.94	... 80
Increase or Decrease in 1923 on— Ten Years				
Average	... —0.8	... —1.4	... +0.04	... —21
Previous Year	+1.7	... —0.2	... +0.11	... —16

Births.

The number of births registered during the year was 311 (fourteen illegitimate children—5 boys and 9 girls).

The number of males born (163) exceed the females born (148) by 15.

The birth-rate was 17.3 per 1,000 of the population (17,970)—males 9.07, females 8.23.

The following table gives the number of births with the birth-rate for the 10 years 1913-1922 with the averages for the years stated:—

Year.	No. of Births.	Birth Rate.
1913	359	20.8
1914	366	21.1
1915	328	18.7
1916	295	16.2
1917	290	16.5
1918	251	14.4
1919	293	16.4
1920	394	22.0
1921	351	19.4
1922	281	15.6
Mean of 10 years—		
1913-1922	320	18.1

The birth-rate was 1.7 above that for the previous year, 0.8 below the average for the preceding 10 years, and 2.4 below that for England and Wales.

Notification of Births Acts (1907 and 1915).

During the year, 298 births were notified:—By Medical Practitioners, 142; by Midwives, 156. The number of still births was 11.

Midwives.

The number of Midwives on the County Register, 31st December, 1923 was 5. Number actually practising, 5. No Midwife is employed or assisted by the Local Authority.

In my Report for 1922, I stated that two Midwives in the district were in failing health and almost unfitted for the work. Although still on the Register, they have practically ceased to attend cases. One additional Nurse who has recently obtained the C.M.B. intends shortly to establish herself in the district.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

A whole-time Health Visitor (Miss Margaret Prusman) was appointed by the Council on the 23rd October, 1916. Qualifications:—Three years' hospital training and C.M.B.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre was opened in August, 1917. Situated in Market Place, it is centrally situated and convenient for all parts of the district.

The Centre is open each Monday from 2 to 5 p.m.

The Medical Officer of Health was appointed Medical Officer to the Centre. Consultations for mothers and infants are arranged for each Monday at 3-30 p.m. A card index system is adopted and a record of each case is kept.

Voluntary workers have done valuable service in making the Centre as bright and attractive as possible, in providing light refreshments for mothers who bring their children, in general offering encouragement and advice to the mothers, and in giving material assistance where the necessity arises.

A Statutory Committee, under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, was appointed, composed of six members of the Council and three ladies who are not members of the Council. The Statutory Committee meet at the Town Hall the last Monday but one in each month just prior to the Council's Monthly Health Meeting.

A scheme has been prepared and approved by the Ministry of Health in regard to the supply of food and milk for expectant and nursing mothers and milk for infants.

My Council are now satisfied that Maternity and Child Welfare work has done and is doing much useful work in the district, but that the scope of the work is curtailed through want of accommodation in the present building. With a view of securing more suitable premises, the Minister of Health has been approached with the object of a grant from the Exchequer towards the cost of alteration of the present or some other existing building or for the erection of a new building.

On November 7th last, Dr. Cameron from the Ministry of Health visited Denton to enquire into Maternity and Child Welfare work in the district, and the need, if any, for larger premises, and after enquiry and inspection of the present building she was satisfied that more accommodation was needed, but that the present building might be altered so as to meet the immediate need.

My Council do not feel justified in spending money on the alteration of the present building which at most, could only be of a temporary nature. Further representations have therefore been made to the Minister of Health. He, however, states that in view of the existing financial situation and the shortage of dwelling-houses he does not feel that he would be justified in sanctioning expenditure for the erection of a new building. He would be prepared, however, to consider the purchase of a suitable existing building and any necessary alterations.

A building in the centre of the township does exist which it is thought could be inexpensively altered to meet the needs of a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre if the price of purchase asked is reasonable.

A Scheme will then be submitted for the Minister's approval.

The following are Statistics for the year in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare work.

Population (Census, 1921)	17,631
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Births.

Registered	(1) Legitimate	297	(2) Illegitimate	14	(3) Total	311
Notified within 36 hours of Birth	(1) Live Births	287	(2) Still Births	11	(3) Total	298
	(2) By Parents and Doctors	156				
	(1) By Midwives	142				

INFANT DEATHS—

Number	(1) Legitimate	22	(2) Illegitimate	3	(3) Total	25
Rate per 1,000 Births	(1) Legitimate	74	(2) Illegitimate	214	(3) Total	80

MATERNAL DEATHS—

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth—	(1) From Sepsis	0	(2) Other Causes	0		11

MIDWIVES—

Number practising in the District	(1) Trained	3	(2) Untrained	2		
Number of cases attended in 1923		156				

HEALTH VISITOR — Visits paid by Health Visitor during the year—

To Expectant Mothers ...	(1) First Visits	51	(2) Total Visits	132		
To Infants under 1	(1) First Visits	288	(2) Total Visits	1923		
To Children 1 to 5	Total Visits	935				

No Municipal Homes, Hospitals or Day Nurseries provided by the Council.

Average attendance at the Centre per Session:—

Expectant Mothers, 2; Children, 49.

The following is the Health Visitor's Report for the Year ending December 31st, 1923:—

Number of visits paid (first)	288
,, ,, (subsequent)	1,635

	Total.....
	1,923

Number of visits to children over 1 year of age	935
Number of attendances for weighing	2,238

Number of visits to expectant mothers (first).....	51
,, ,, (subsequent)	81

	Total.....
	132

Free milk has been supplied to 73 mothers for periods varying from a month to a year.

Number of still-births visited, 7.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum:—1 case (treated at home), cured.

To enable some of the mothers to attend the various hospitals with their babies, car fares have been allowed for different periods, and occasional help given towards the expense of belts (umbilical) to those cases unable to provide same.

"Baby Week" was celebrated as usual with a pic-nic, festivities in the park by the school-children, etc.

A tea for the mothers attending the Centre was given Easter Week and Xmas time.

About 30 mothers have obtained foods (Glaxo—Cow and Gate) at a cheaper rate and a few necessitous cases given foods and extra nourishment free.

31/12/23.

M. PRUSMAN.

The following is a Tabulated Statement of Nursing arrangements, Hospitals and other Institutions available for the District:—

Professional Nursing in the Home.—

Arrangements in the district for :

(a) General Nursing No other provision except that afforded by the Local Sick Nursing Association.

(b) For Infectious Diseases,
e.g., Measles, etc. No special nurse is provided in the case of Infectious Diseases. In cases where it is deemed satisfactory nursing and isolation cannot be carried out, the patient is removed to Hospital.

Midwives—Is any midwife employed by or assisted by the Local Authority?

No.

Number of midwives on the County Council Register, 31st December, 1923

No. on Register, 5; No. actually practising, 5

Any comments as to the sufficiency or otherwise of the Midwifery service?

Midwifery service satisfactory.

What action has been taken by the Council respecting Child Welfare Work?

A modified scheme adopted. Whole-time Health Visitor. Welfare Centre established, Medical advice given. A more complete scheme is being prepared (larger premises, Crèche, etc.) and will shortly be submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Has a Local Child Welfare Centre been established?	Yes.
If so, where?	Market Place.
Give days and time open	Monday, 2 to 5 p.m.
Have any of the following been provided in your district:—	
Day Nursery	No.
Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children?	No.
School Clinic?	No. (except that provided by the Education Authority).
Tuberculosis Clinic?	No (except that provided at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Ashton-u-Lyne).
Venereal Diseases Clinic?	No. Cases can receive treatment at almost all the Voluntary aided Hospitals in Manchester and at the Ashton-u-Lyne Infirmary under the Lancashire County Council Scheme.
Has any Local scheme been prepared in regard to the supply of Food and Milk for Expectant Mothers and of Milk for Infants?	Yes, a scheme has been prepared and approved by the Ministry of Health in regard to the supply of Milk for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Milk for Infants.
Is there a District Nursing Association in the district?	Yes.
How many District Nurses employed?	One.
If so, does any arrangement exist between the Council and the Association in respect of Child Welfare Work?	No.

If no such arrangement exists,
does the Association volun-
tarily undertake Child Welfare
Work? No.

Does the Association undertake:
(a) Midwifery cases? No.
(b) Monthly Nursing? No.

Hospital Accommodation provided or available:—

For Smallpox—Two beds at the Hyde Borough Small-
pox Hospital.

For other infectious diseases—Four beds at the Hyde
Borough Infectious Disease Hospital.

A Retaining Fee paid.

There is no Hospital Accommodation in the District for:—

- (a) Maternity Cases.—St. Mary's Hospital, Manches-
ter accept Primiparas and difficult cases.
- (b) Children.—Cases are received at the Children's
Hospital, Gartside Street, Manchester, and at
Pendlebury.
- (c) Tuberculosis.—None in the District. Several have
had Institutional treatment at various Sanatoria.

The Union Infirmary (Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-
Lyne) is situated outside the District.

Ambulance Facilities.

- (a) For infectious cases, the Hyde Borough Infectious
Disease Ambulance.
- (b) For non-infectious and accident cases, the Denton
Council's own Motor Ambulance.

Laboratory Work.

All Bacteriological work is entrusted to the Public Health Laboratory, Victoria University, Manchester.

The following is a Tabulated statement of Bacteriological Examinations made during the year 1923, for the Urban District of Denton.

MONTH	Diphtheria		Typhoid Fever		Human Tuberculosis	
	Total	+	Total	+	Total	+
January	—	—	—	—	1	—
February	1	—	—	—	1	—
March	1	—	—	—	3	—
April	1	—	—	—	2	2
May	—	—	—	—	1	—
June	1	—	1	—	1	1
July	—	—	—	—	1	—
August	—	—	—	—	1	—
September	—	—	—	—	—	—
October	—	—	—	—	2	1
November	—	—	—	—	1	—
December	1	—	—	—	2	1
 Total	 5	 —	 1	 —	 16	 5

Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is kept at the Public Health Offices and is supplied free to any Medical Practitioner on application.

During the year, 5 vials—8,000 units each were used. No other sera or vaccine was used.

Adoptive Acts in Force in the District.

TITLE OF ACT.	Date Act came in force in the District.
The Public Libraries Act and Acts amending the same	31st May, 1887.
The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889. This Act has been extended to Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Acute, Poliomyelitis, Cerebro-Spinal Fever, Encephalitis, Lethargica and Chicken-pox.....	26th March, 1892.
The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890	1st May, 1894.
The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890	1st July, 1894.
The Private Street Works Act, 1892	1st May, 1896.
The Museums and Gymnasiums Act, 1891...	1st October, 1897.
The Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1889.	6th May, 1901.
Parts of the Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907	

Death-Rate.

The deaths relate exclusively to the civilian population.

The estimated population supplied by the Registrar General as at 30th June, 1923 for use in vital statistics based on the 1921 figures after allowance for the natural increase as evidenced by the births and deaths in the area and of migration as indicated from other sources of information such as the changes in the numbers on the Parliamentary Register and the migration returns obtained by the Board of Trade was 17,970.

The total number of deaths registered was 216.

The deaths of females (112) exceed those of males (104) by eight.

The death-rate from all causes was 12.0 (males, 5.78; females, 6.22).

The following Table gives the number of deaths belonging to the District together with the death-rate for the 10 years, 1913-1922, with the average for the years stated:—

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Death-Rate.
1913	252	14.65
1914	225	12.97
1915	255	14.88
1916	244	14.59
1917	216	13.70
1918	254	16.4
1919	205	11.9
1920	204	11.4
1921	217	12.0
1922	220	12.2
Mean of 10 years—		
1913-1922.....	229	13.4

The death-rate was 0.2 below that for the previous year, 1.4 below the previous 10 years' average but is 0.4 above that for England and Wales.

Transferable Deaths.

One death of a non-resident registered in the District was transferred away, and 46 deaths of residents not registered in the district have been transferred to the district.

The ages at the time of death were as follows:—

Total cases at all ages	1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and up- wards
216	25	4	2	1	—	5	1	7	18	11	56	86

The following Table will show the chief causes of death during 1923:—

Causes of Death	M.	F.
All Causes	104	112
1 Whooping Cough	3	—
2 Diphtheria	1	—
3 Influenza	2	4
4 Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1
5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	8	9
6 Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	4
7 Cancer, Malignant Disease	8	10
8 Rheumatic Fever	—	1
9 Diabetes	1	1
10 Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc	3	15
11 Heart Disease	14	12
12 Arterio-Sclerosis	5	2
13 Bronchitis	11	7
14 Pneumonia (all forms)	10	6
15 Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
16 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	1
17 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	3	5
18 Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	5	4
19 Suicide	2	1
20 Other deaths from Violence	2	2
21 Other defined diseases	23	26

From the above table it will be seen that diseases of the respiratory system, cancer, heart and blood-vessels account for approximately 50 per cent of the total deaths from all causes.

Infant Mortality.

There were 25 deaths of infants under one year of age registered during the year (three illegitimate—one boy and two girls) which measured by the proportion of deaths to the registered births, was equal to 80 per 1,000 births.

The following table gives the number of infant deaths and infant death-rate for the 10 years, 1913-1922 with the averages for the years stated:-

Year.	Number of Infant Deaths.	Infant Death-Rate.
1913	52	144
1914	44	120
1915	48	146
1916	32	108
1917	20	68
1918	17	67
1919	24	81
1920	36	91
1921	34	96
1922	27	96
Mean of 10 years—		
1913-1922.....	33	101

The infant death-rate is 16 per 1,000 births below that for the previous year, 21 below the preceding 10 years' average. It is, however, 11 per 1,000 births above that for England and Wales.

The causes of death under one year of age were as follows:—Congenital Debility and Malformation including Premature Birth, 9; Pneumonia, 4; Gastritis, 2; Meningitis 3; Tuberculosis of the Liver, 1; Whooping Cough, 1; Infanticide, 1; Eczema Furunculosis, 1; Malnutrition and Convulsions, 1; Marasmus, 2.

The following table gives the ages in weeks and months of infants who died under one year of age:—

Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total under one year
6	—	1	2	9	5	6	3	2	25

Notifiable Diseases.

The following table will show the number of cases of infectious disease notified under the following age groups, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to Hospital and deaths in Hospital during the year 1923:—

The following table will show the number of each of the principal Zymotic Diseases notified in the past 10 years and the averages compared with those for 1923:—

Disease.	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	Avg. for 10 years	1923
Small Pox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	57	192	60	37	15	25	28	64	84	89	64.2	57
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	26	19	7	6	12	11	16	22	8	7	13.4	14
Typhus Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever	6	1	7	3	..	3	1	..	3	2	2.5	..
Puerperal Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	1	0.5	..
Erysipelas	10	8	13	8	5	8	8	10	6	8	8.4	5
Continued Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals.....	99	220	87	54	32	47	55	96	103	98	89.1	76

The number of cases notified in 1923, is therefore, 22 less than in the preceding year, and is also 13.1 less than the 10 years' average

Tuberculosis.

Fifteen cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified.

The following figures show the numbers notified during the years:—

1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922
38	21	31	44	32	14	20	16	15	28

The following table shows the incidence of the disease in respect of age and sex:—

Age Periods.	Years 0—1	1—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65 and Upwards	Totals
Male	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	1	2	—	9
Female	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	1	6
Total	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	3	3	2	1	15

There were 17 deaths (males 8, females, 9) as against 15 in the previous year, 11 in 1921, 11 in 1920, 7 in 1919, 17 in 1918, 19 in 1917, 22 in 1916, and 13 in 1915.

The death-rate was 0.94 as against 0.83 in the previous year, and 0.61 in 1921. The mean rate for the 10 years 1913-1922 was 0.90.

The age at which death occurred is shown in the following table:—

Age Periods.	Years 0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 and Upwards	Totals
Males	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	2	1	—	8
Females	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	3	1	—	1	9
Total	—	—	—	—	3	2	3	4	3	1	1	17

Twenty-one notifications were received in respect of Tuberculosis other than the lungs, compared with 14 in the previous year, 4 in 1921, 9 in 1920, 11 in 1919, 10 in 1918, 21 in 1917 and 19 in 1916.

Location of the disease:—Glands, 9; Abdomen, 3; Hip, 2; Skin, 2; Meninges, 1; Wrist, 1; Shoulder, 1; Psoas Abscess, 1; and one case of Abdomen (doubtful).

There were six deaths (two males and four females) compared with two deaths in the preceding year, 6 in 1921, 4 in 1920, 3 in 1919, 4 in 1918, 4 in 1917 and 2 in 1916.

The sex and age at which death occurred are as follows:

Age Periods.	Years										Totals
	0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	
Males	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Females	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	4
Total	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	6

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths was as follows:—

Total deaths, 23 Not notified before death, 3 (one pulmonary and two non-pulmonary).

Notification on the whole is satisfactory.

Hatting is the staple industry in the district and there does not appear to be anything in the trade specially conducive to the development of Tuberculosis. Employers on the whole are very considerate for the welfare of the employees.

The Ward distribution of the cases is as follows:—

North Ward, 12; East Ward, 11; West Ward, 13.

Rooms are disinfected after Phthisis. Disinfectants and Izal handkerchiefs are supplied free. The Council provide for free Bacteriological Examination of Sputum in all cases.

Sixteen specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester. Five positive, and eleven negative.

I am much obliged to Dr. J. L. Stewart, Consultant Tuberculosis Officer to the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Ashton-under-Lyne, for the following report on the work done in Denton in connection with Tuberculosis during the year 1923:—

URBAN DISTRICT OF DENTON.

REPORT OF TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1923.

During the year 1923, thirty-six notifications of patients suffering from Tuberculosis were received. Of these, fifteen were notified as suffering from Tuberculosis of the lungs, and twenty-one from non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Of the fifteen Pulmonary cases, eight were found to have tubercle bacilli in the sputum, five were negative, and in two cases the sputum was not examined.

The twenty-one Non-pulmonary cases are classified as follows, according to the localization of the disease:—

Glands	9	Skin	2
Meninges	1	Wrist	1
Psoas Abscess	1	Hip	2
Abdomen	3	Shoulder	1
Combined case			1

(Diagnosis in this case not confirmed).

Two of the notified non-pulmonary cases were also found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and tubercle bacilli were found in the sputum in both cases.

Seven of the notified pulmonary cases died during the year. Two of the non-pulmonary cases died during the year, including the one from Meningitis.

Twenty-six of the thirty-six notified cases applied for treatment. In the remaining ten cases, no application was made for various special reasons, e.g., patient too ill for anything to be done (in the Meningitis case) patient removed from district immediately after notification; diagnosis not confirmed after examination; and patient refused to apply for treatment.

Of the patients who applied for treatment, two were sent to Sanatoria, four to Pulmonary Hospital for advanced cases, ten to Hospitals for surgical treatment, etc., and one received treatment at the Manchester Skin Hospital. The remaining nine cases were under Dispensary Supervision only.

In addition to the notified cases, patients are sent to the Dispensary by their doctors for examination and diagnosis. During the year 1923, forty-three new cases were sent for diagnosis by the doctors, School Medical Officers, etc. The number of re-attendances of old patients at the Dispensary for supervision and arrangements for treatment, was two-hundred and eighty-six. Special enquiries are made as to the health of other inmates of the house where there are patients suffering from definite Tuberculosis, and eighteen of these contacts were examined during the year.

In supervision and visiting, special attention is paid to the open cases, i.e., cases where tubercle bacilli are present or have been found in the sputum. On the 1st January, 1923, there were thirty-eight such cases known to be living in the district. On the 31st December, 1923, there were thirty-two positive cases living. These figures include quiescent and arrested cases.

Fifteen of the positive cases died during the year.

The condition as to isolation at home of the positive cases was as follows:—

Separate Bedroom	42
Separate Bed only	6
Unable to have Separate Bed	1

Eighteen of the positive cases were in institution for treatment or isolation at some time during the year.

Five housing defects were reported during the year., and these had been remedied by the end of the year.

Fifty-three specimens of sputum, urine, etc., from Denton were examined at the Ashton Laboratory during the year. Of these, sixteen were positive, and thirty-seven were negative.

During the twelve months, thirty-one patients were discharged from institutions as follows:—

From Sanatoria	12
,, Pulmonary Hospitals for advanced cases ...	6
,, General Hospital for treatment of Non- Pulmonary Tuberculosis	11
,, Manchester Skin Hospitals	0
,, Observation Hospital	2

The results on discharge were as follows:—

Disease, quiescent or arrested	6
Improved	13
Died	6
Worse	2
Stationary	1
Relieved	1
Diagnosis not confirmed (observation cases)	2

Small Pox.

No case of Small-pox has been notified in the district since 1904. The case rate for England and Wales was 0.06.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 57 cases notified during the year which is 23 less than in the preceding year and is 7.2 less than the average for the 10 years 1913-1922.

The case rate was 3.17 per 1,000 population, compared with 2.23 for England and Wales.

The following figures show the number notified each month during the year.

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
6	3	11	8	11	5	5	2	1	2	1	2

The number of cases notified in each age group was:—

Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and Upwards	Total
1	4	3	2	6	22	13	5	2	1	1	1	57

There were no deaths during the year, as against two deaths (in hospital) last year.

The death-rate was 0.00 as against 0.11 last year and 0.03 for England and Wales.

The Ward distribution of the cases was as follows:—

North Ward, 11; East Ward, 17; West Ward, 29.

Seven cases were removed to Hospital, all other cases were treated at home on the lines advocated by Dr. Robert Milne. (Eucalyptus Oil and Carbolic Oil are supplied free by the Council.)

At the same time all reasonable precautions are taken to isolate the cases as far as possible in their own homes and on recovery, the house and clothing are disinfected.

The home method of treatment of Scarlet Fever has now been employed in the district for the past nine and a half years with satisfactory results. Only for some special reason is a case removed to Hospital, e.g. want of convenience for isolation, overcrowding, or where the mother is expecting, etc.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

The following figures show the number of cases notified in 1923 and in the 10 preceding years:—

1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
26	19	7	6	12	11	16	22	8	7	14

The number is 7 above that for the preceding year and is 0.6 above the average of the ten years, 1913-1922.

The number notified in each age group was:—

Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and Upwards	Total
1	1	2	4	2	2	2	—	1	1	1	—	14

The case rate was equal to 0.77 per 1,000 population, compared with 1.04 for England and Wales.

The number notified during each month was as follows:—

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	—	1	1

The distribution of the cases were:—

North Ward, 7; East Ward, 0; West Ward, 7.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is kept at the Health Offices and is supplied free to any Medical Practitioner on application.

Five vials—8,000 units each were used during the year.

The Council provide for free Bacteriological Examination of throat swabs. Five swabs were examined, all negative.

One case removed to hospital, case died while in hospital.

Enteric Fever.

There have been no cases notified during the year.

The following figures show the number of cases notified in each of the previous ten years:—

1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922
6	1	7	3	0	3	1	0	3	2

The case rate for England and Wales was 0.08 and the death-rate, 0.01.

The Council provide for the examination of blood specimens.

One specimen was submitted, result negative.

Erysipelas.

The following figures show the numbers in 1923 and in each of the 10 preceding years:—

1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
10	8	13	8	5	8	8	10	6	8	5

The number is three less than in the preceding year and 3.4 below the previous 10 years' average.

The case rate was 0.27 per 1,000 population, compared

with 0.32 for England and Wales.

With regard to age, one was between age group, 5-10, one between 10-15, and three between 45-65.

The Ward distribution was:—

North Ward, 1 ; East Ward, 1 ; West Ward, 3.

Two cases notified in March, one in June and two in July. There were no deaths.

Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years).

There were no notifications or deaths recorded. The death-rate for England and Wales was 7.7 per 1,000 births.

Chicken-Pox.

Owing to the prevalence of Chicken pox in some neighbouring districts, the Health Committee at their Monthly Meeting in January, 1922, deemed that an emergency existed. By a resolution under Section 7 (6) of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, ordered that Chickenpox should be compulsorily notifiable in the district for a period of six months. This was afterwards extended to the 31st December, 1924.

The following figures give the numbers notified in each month:—

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
4	30	21	28	3	2	—	—	—	1	2	4

The number notified in each age group was:—

Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20
5	6	1	10	7	57	8	1

There were no deaths.

Puerperal Fever.

There were no cases notified and no deaths recorded. Only six cases have been notified during the past eleven years, viz:—one in 1922, two in 1921, two in 1919 and one in 1912.

The case rate for England and Wales was 0.06.

The number of midwives in the district who are on the County Register is 5. In actual practice, 5.

There are also midwives from neighbouring districts who have attended cases in the district during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case notified. Treated at home. Recovered, Vision unimpaired.

Cases are notified to the County Medical Officer of Health, and where a midwife is concerned, the County Inspector of Midwives usually pays a special visit to investigate the case.

All cases on receipt of notification are kept under regular observation by our Health Visitor until recovered.

Measles and German Measles.

The disease not being compulsorily notifiable in the district, no correct estimate can be formed as to the number of cases which have occurred. There were no deaths.

The following show the number of deaths in each of the 10 years, 1913-1922:—

1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922
4	2	17	2	4	1	0	4	0	3

The death-rate for England and Wales was 0.14.

Whooping Cough.

There were three deaths, giving a death-rate of 0.16, compared with 0.10 for England and Wales.

Influenza.

Six deaths occurred from this disease, giving a death-rate of 0.33, compared with 0.22 for the whole of the Country.

Pneumonia.

Forty-two cases were notified during the year, as against 30 in 1922, 22 in 1921, 25 in 1920, and 32 during the ten months of 1919 that the regulations were in force.

There were 16 deaths, compared with 19 deaths in 1922, 22 in 1921, 12 in 1920, and 25 in 1919.

The deaths of males (10) exceed those of females (6) by four.

The death-rate was 0.89 per 1,000 of the population, as against 1.05 in the preceding year, 1.22 in 1921 and 0.67 in 1920.

Venereal Diseases.

In January, 1923, the Lancashire County Council issued their Revised Scheme for the Prevention and Treatment of Venereal Diseases.

The scheme includes the following arrangements:—

- (1) For enabling any Medical Practitioner in the area of the County Council to obtain, at the cost of the County Council, a scientific report on any material which the Medical Practitioner may submit from a patient suspected to be suffering from Venereal Disease.

- (2) For the treatment, etc., in hospitals or other institutions of persons suffering from Venereal Disease, and
- (3) For supplying Medical Practitioners with Salvarson or its approved substitutes, for the treatment and prevention of Venereal Diseases.

The facilities mentioned, both for diagnosis and treatment, are available to registered Medical Practitioners without charge to them or their patients.

Arrangements have been made by which any Medical Practitioner will be supplied gratuitously with the necessary outfit for collecting material for examination from persons suspected to be suffering from Venereal Disease and a scientific report furnished.

The Laboratories available for such examination are:—

The University of Manchester Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Oxford Road, Manchester.
(Professor Topley, Director).

The University of Liverpool, City Laboratories and School of Hygiene, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool.
(Professor Beattie).

The Borough Health Department, Laboratory, Burnley.

Treatment Centres or Clinics.

The County Council have made arrangements with a number of Institutions. The following are convenient centres for the district.

Treatment Centre.	Days and Hours of Out-Patient Clinic.
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE District Infirmary, Darnton Road.	<p>Males: Wednesday, 3—4 p.m. Thursday, 6—7-30 p.m.</p> <p>Females: Monday, 6—7-30 p.m. Wednesday, 3—4 p.m.</p>
MANCHESTER Royal Infirmary, Oxford Road.	<p>Irrigation:— For Gonorrhœa cases— Monday to Friday, 6-30—7-30 p.m.</p>
MANCHESTER St. Luke's Hospital, Duke Street, Liverpool Road.	<p>Syphilis:— Males: Wednesday, 6 p.m. Females: Thursday, 11 a.m. (and children).</p> <p>Diseases of the Genito-Urinary Organs:— Males: Thursday, 6 p.m. Females: Wednesday, 11 a.m. (and children).</p> <p>Syphilis and Diseases of the Genito-Urinary Organs:— Males: Monday, 6 p.m.</p>
MANCHESTER AND SALFORD Hospital for Skin Diseases, Quay Street, Deansgate (Syphilis and Skin Diseases only treated at this Hosp'tal).	<p>Monday, 5—7 p.m. Tuesday, 5—7 p.m. Thursday, 5—7 p.m. Friday, 5—7 p.m. Wednesday, 5—7 p.m. (women only).</p>
MANCHESTER St. Mary's Hospitals, (Whitworth Street West Branch), Oxford Street.	<p>Daily (Sunday excepted). Males: Females: 9—10 a.m. 9—11 a.m. Children, 9—11 a.m.</p>
MANCHESTER Ancoats Hospital, Mill Street, Ancoats.	<p>Females: Daily (Saturday and Sunday excepted), 9—10-30 a.m. Thursday, 5—7 p.m.</p> <p>Males: Wednesday, 5-30—7 p.m. Saturday, 5—7 p.m.</p> <p>Females: Wednesday, 11-30—1 p.m.</p>

Sanitary Administration.

Alteration of Privy Middens, etc. to Water Closets.

The following table will show the yearly progress in this direction for the past twelve years.

	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Privy Closets abolished...	196	190	139	29	—	3	—	12	32	40	45	39
Fresh Water Closets substituted	202	193	133	29	—	3	—	9	31	37	45	43
Pail Closets abolished	—	7	15	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Fresh Water Closets substituted	—	9	13	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Waste Water Closets abolished	—	25	13	10	—	—	—	7	—	—	3	10
Fresh Water Closets substituted	—	25	13	10	—	—	—	7	—	—	4	12
Privy Middens abolished.	100	105	67	17	—	—	—	7	12	19	24	18
Dustbins substituted	195	196	132	31	—	—	—	6	30	32	45	45
Dry Ashpits abolished ...	30	14	11	6	—	—	1	2	2	3	2	7
Dustbins substituted	55	16	18	9	—	—	1	2	3	3	4	10

Closet Accommodation

The following figures give the Closet accommodation in the district at the end of 1923:—

Number of Privy Middens	90
,, Closets attached to these Middens	144
,, Pail Closets	24
,, Ashpits (excluding middens)	314
,, Fresh Water Closets	4434
,, Portable Receptacles for Refuse	3919
,, Waste Water Closets	559
,, Privy Closets converted during 1923:—	
(a) To Fresh W.C.'s	39
(b) To Waste W.C.'s.....	—
(c) To Pail, etc.....	—
,, Privy Closets abolished during 1923	39
,, Waste Water Closets Converted.....	10
To Fresh W.C.'s	12

Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse.

This work is carried out satisfactorily by the Sanitary Authority.

The work is carried out by day.

The following statement prepared by the Sanitary Inspector shows the amount of nightsoil and ashes removed during the year:—

	Loads
Dustbins emptied	3127
Dry Ashpits emptied	1255
Privy Middens emptied	342— 866
Pails and Cesspools	57
Trade Refuse	73
	—
Total.....	4123
	—
Removed to Windmill Lane Tip	2186
Removed to Vaudrey Lane Tip	1745
Delivered to Farmers	128
Removed to Mill Lane Pit Shaft	64
	—
Total.....	4123
	—

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

The following is a classified statement (prepared by the Sanitary Inspector) of the number of premises visited:—

Tents, Vans	59
Courts, Yards, and Passages	641
Water Closets	355
Privies	75
Ashpits	69
House Drainage	167
Piggeries	55
Stables	9

Cowsheds	91
Dairies	94
Milkshops	18
Butchers' Shops	96
Slaughter Houses	481
Offensive Trades	63
Bakehouses	36
Other places where food is produced and sold	91
Factories	24
Workshops	16
Outworkers' Premises	27
Schools, Yards and Lavatories	14
Council's Tips	51
Hawkers' Carts	37
Market Stalls	336
Interviews with Agents, Owners, etc., of Property...	105

The following table (also prepared by the Sanitary Inspector) shows the result of action taken in regard to the defects or nuisances discovered:—

Privy Closets abolished	39
Fresh Water Closets substituted	43
Waste Water Closets abolished	10
Fresh Water Closets substituted	12
Privy Middens abolished	18
Dustbins substituted	51
Dry Ashpits abolished	7
Dustbins substituted	10
Dustbins renewed	282
Drains re-constructed	19
Blocked Drains, Gullies and W.C.'s released.....	49
Water Supply Pipes, Waste Pipes repaired	5
Yard Surfaces repaired	13
Yard Walls repaired	11
Roofs and Chimney Stacks repaired	11

Drop-Spouts disconnected from Drains or repaired...	16
W.C. Cisterns repaired	30
W.C. Pedestals renewed	6
Eaves Gutters repaired	12
Dampness remedied	1
Offensive Accumulations removed.....	19
Nuisances abated from animals improperly kept.....	7

287 Preliminary Notices and 41 Statutory Notices requiring the abatement of nuisances have been served.

No legal proceedings taken.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.

The following table shows the number and character of such premises or occupations:—

Character of Premises or Occupation.	No.	Registered or Licensed.	Remarks on Condition found.
Retail Purveyors of Milk	49	Registered.	Satisfactory.
Wholesale Traders and Producers of Milk	6	Registered.	Satisfactory.
Tripe Boilers	4	Registered.	Clean.
Slaughter Houses	10	{ 6 Licensed 4 Registered).	Good.
Factory Bakehouses	1	Registered.	Clean.
Outworkers' Premises	247	Registered.	Clean.
Common Lodging Houses	Nil	—	—
Underground Sleeping Rooms	Nil	—	—

The only offensive trades in the district are four tripe boilers. Their places of business are clean and well-kept.

Outworkers are principally employed in the trimming of felt and silk hats.

Where infectious disease has occurred at an Outworker's premises, work has been suspended during the period of infection.

Other Sanitary Conditions Requiring Notice.

The present method of killing in private slaughter-houses is unsatisfactory. It is essential that the Meat Inspector should have the opportunity to examine all carcases immediately after slaughter. To do this is almost impossible when the killing is done in a number of slaughter houses scattered throughout the district.

Schools

There are in the district two Provided Schools, viz:—The Russell Scott Council School and the Central Council School.

Five non-Provided Schools, viz:—Christ Church C.E. School, Denton and Haughton National School, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Schol, St. Mary's C.E. School, and St. Anne's C.E. School.

The Sanitary condition of the Schools on the whole is satisfactory.

All Schools in the district receive their water supply from the Manchester Corporation Mains.

No School or department of a School was closed on account of infectious disease during the year.

With a view to preventing the spread of infectious diseases among school children, schools have been frequently disinfected.

The following table shows the notifiable Zymotic attacks in school children at the different schools in the district:—

School.	Quarter ending 31st March.	Quarter ending 30th June.	Quarter ending 30th September.	Quarter ending 31st December.
Central Council School.	1 Chicken-pox.	3 Scarlet Fever. 1 Chicken-pox.	1 Scarlet Fever.	1 Chicken-pox.
St. Anne's C.E. School		8 Chicken-pox.	2 Scarlet Fever.	
Russell Scott Council School.	1 Diphtheria. 3 Scarlet Fever. 25 Chicken-pox.	5 Scarlet Fever. 1 Diphtheria.	1 Scarlet Fever. 1 Diphtheria.	
Denton and Haughton National School.		4 Scarlet Fever. 11 Chicken-pox.	1 Pneumonia. 1 Scarlet Fever.	
Christ Church C. E. School.		1 Scarlet Fever. 3 Chicken-pox.	1 Scarlet Fever. 1 Chicken-pox.	
St. Mary's C.E. School.		1 Scarlet Fever. 4 Chicken-pox.	1 Scarlet Fever.	
St. Mary's R.C. School.		1 Scarlet Fever.	1 Scarlet Fever.	
Schools outside the District.		1 Scarlet Fever.	2 Diphtheria. 1 Chicken-pox.	

Food.

(a) Milk Supply.

Total number of Cowkeepers	23
Number on Register	23
Number of Inspections during the year	91
Total number of Dairymen or Milk Purveyors	
(other than Cowkeepers)	32
Number on Register	32
Number of Inspections to Dairies	94

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-Shops Order, are in force in the district. No samples of milk were taken during the year.

During the year, the Sanitary Inspector in his visits to Cowsheds detected five cows which were suffering from Tuberculosis. These he ordered to be removed and destroyed. In each case the farmer promptly carried out the order.

A minimum of 600-800 cubic feet of air space per cow is insisted on, the former for cows habitually grazed, the latter where they are not habitually grazed.

There are no definite arrangements for regular Veterinary Inspection of dairy cows. In a case of doubt a Veterinary Surgeon is called in.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923.

No licences have been issued in respect of "Certified" Milk, "Grade A" Milk, "Grade A" (Tuberculin Tested) Milk, "Pasteurised" Milk or for Pasteurising Plants.

(b) Meat.

The Sanitary Inspector who holds the Certificate for Meat Inspection, makes systematic inspections of the Slaughter-houses.

481 Inspections of these premises were made during the year.

There are in the district, ten slaughter-houses, four of which are registered and six licensed. The condition of the slaughter-houses is fairly satisfactory.

The following figures show the quantity and kind of meat seized as diseased, unsound, and unfit for human food.

(a) Tuberculous carcases and parts:—

	lbs.
Three Pigs	568
Two Pigs' Heads	20
Beasts' Livers, Lungs, Spleens and Hearts	180
	<hr/>
Total.....	768
	<hr/>

(b) Diseased, Unsound or Unwholesome Meat:—

(other than (a) above):—

One Pig (Septicaemia)	180
One Pig (Pneumonia)	125
14 Sheep Plucks	40
Beasts' Lungs and Livers	180
	<hr/>
Total.....	525
	<hr/>

(c) Other Foodstuffs:—

Boiled Tripe	250
Boiled Udders	80
Beef	9
Mutton	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Veal	37
Lamb	32
Ham	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bananas	43
Peas	12

Gooseberries	5
Onions	145
Pears	14
Apples	84
Halibut	12 $\frac{3}{4}$
Mackerel	6
Whiting	11
Total.....	762$\frac{3}{4}$

No legal proceedings taken.

An outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease occurred on 17th December, at Thornley Lane Farm. Several cows and pigs were affected, in consequence of which the whole of the live stock (thirteen cows and eight pigs) were destroyed and cremated on the farm premises.

The byres, shippings and piggeries, etc., have been thoroughly cleansed and disinfected.

Bakehouses.

There are 29 bakehouses in the district and with the exception of two, the baking is carried on in conjunction with some other business.

The sanitary condition in all were satisfactory.

36 inspections of these premises were made during the year.

Premises where Foods are Manufactured, Prepared, Stored, or Exposed for Sale.

91 inspections have been made of places where food is prepared and sold. The premises were found in good sanitary condition.

No known case of food poisoning occurred in the district.

Action under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and the Milk and Cream Regulations:—

No action taken, the Council not being the Local Authority under these Acts.

Smoke Abatement.

During the year 10 observations were made.

The time limit fixed in the district is eight minutes in the hour. One factory was found to be issuing black smoke in such quantity as to be a nuisance. The firm was communicated with and on a written promise from the said firm to do their best to abate the nuisance, no further action was taken.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

Number of inspections, 40.

Number of Notices received from H.M. Lady Inspector of Factories, 13. .

Eleven Notices relating to occupation of workshops. These were visited and entered in the Workshops Register.

1.—Notice dated 16th October, 1923, with reference to means of exit at the factory occupied by the Denton Confectionery Co., Heaton Street, Denton.

The Health Committee visited and inspected the premises and as there were only 15 girls employed on the first floor workroom, the Committee decided to take no action in the matter.

2.—Notice dated 19th October, 1923, with reference to the means of escape in case of fire at the premises occupied by the Denton Manufacturing Co., Station Works, Oldham Street. Result of action taken:—Additional means of escape in case of fire have now been provided.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Houses are disinfected in all cases of Scarlet Fever, frequently in cases of Phthisis.

During the year 110 rooms at 86 houses have been disinfected.

With a view to prevent Infectious Disease amongst School children, 247 class-rooms at seven schools have been disinfected.

Method: Rooms are disinfected by spraying the walls, ceilings and floors with a solution of Formaldehyde, and after, submitting the room to Formaldehyde Vapour.

Clothing, Bedding, etc., are disinfected in like manner and at the same time as the room. The clothing is suspended in the infected room.

The method for clothing and bedding, etc. is unsatisfactory.

A Steam Disinfector was purchased in May, 1920, but has not yet been fixed for use.

More thorough disinfection than that at present in use is needed.

During the year, the Sanitary Inspector made 270 visits to cases of Infectious Disease.

Where infectious disease has occurred at an Outworker's premises, work has been suspended during the period of infection.

No satisfactory means available for disinfestation of clothing, etc., infested with vermin or in case of scabies.

Careful supervision on the part of the Sanitary Inspector in preventing the accumulation of manure, the abolition of the Privy Middens and Ashpits and systematic emptying of ashbins, along with another wet and cold summer have acted as a considerable check to the fly pest.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health :

WILLIAM STEWART, M.D.,

Part-time Officer (contribution to Salary under the Public Health Acts).

Sanitary Inspector :

A. C. BROCKLEHURST,

Whole-time Officer (contribution to Salary under the Public Health Acts).

Health Visitor :

Miss M. PRUSMAN,

Three years' Hospital Training and C.M.B. Whole-time.
(Exchequer Grant towards Salary).

Sanitary Improvements during 1923.

The most noteworthy are the conversion of Privy Closets to Fresh Water Closets, abolition of Privy Middens and Dry Ashpits and substitution of portable receptacles for refuse.

There are in the district at the end of the year, 90 Privy Middens, and with the present rate of conversions the district should very soon be clear.

Much thanks are due to the Sanitary Inspector in the tactful way he has managed to get the majority of these conversions done in a friendly way. Few Statutory notices have been served and no legal action taken, but for the period of the war the district would have been quite free.

Chief Sanitary Requirements of District.

Fixing Steam Disinfecto—very important.

Paving of back passages.

Public Mortuary.

Fewer Slaughter-houses and more concentration of slaughtering.

Housing

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total	8
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts of 1919 or 1923:—	
(1) By the Local Authority	None
(2) By other bodies or persons	One

Number of houses in course of erection under Council's Building Scheme None

Financial Assistance for purposes of increasing housing accommodation:—

Have any advances been made during 1923—

(a) By Loans?	No
(b) By subsidy?	No

Unfit Dwelling-houses—

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)

265

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910

59

Have the particulars of these inspections been fully recorded as specified in the Regulations?

Yes

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation

None

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...

41

Remedy of Defects without Service of

Formal Notices—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers

132

Action under Statutory Powers—

A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	None
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:—	
(a) By owners	None
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	None
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close.	None
B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	41
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:—	
(a) By owners	34
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	None
C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909 —	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	None
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	None
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	None
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	None
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	None
D.—Number of houses demolished voluntarily by owners, or converted to workshops, etc.	None

*Refers only to action taken in reference to housing defects. Notices with regard to drainage and other defects should be included under Sanitary Administration.